THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) The scheme of MSS has been in operation since 1991. The scheme envisages an organisation of community members of sensitising the people in their neighbourhood about maternal and child health issues and educating them about health and family welfare practices, facilities and programmes. Thus these organisations are primarily intended for dissemination of health education among the rural community.

The functioning of the scheme and the progress achieved are being reviewed and discussed in meetings with the State Family Welfare Secretaries and Directors of Family Welfare held by the Ministry from time to time.

Deficiencies in Bagalkot Dental College

3432. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question 144 in Rajya Sabha on 5th June, 1998 and state:

(a) the details of deficiencies alongwith the agency which pointed them out in respect of Bagalkot Dental College;

(b) whether these have since been removed; and

(c) if so, whether the LOP has since been issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) The following deficiencies, as pointed out in the report of the Inspectors of the Dental Council of India in respect of PMNM Dental College, Bagalkot, have been communicated by the Central Govt. to the applicant on 31.12.1997;

(i) Shortage of 2 readers, 9 lecturers, 1 Asstt. Librarian, 3 Nurses, 12 dental Hygienists, 7 Dental Mechanics & 3 clerks.

(ii) Shortage of P.G. staff in the Department of Anatomy & Physology.

(iii) Non-furnishing of the registered deed of sale relating to possession of 5 acres of land on ownership basis.

(iv) Shortage of space for staff including non availability of separate rooms for professors.

(b) The applicant has sent the Compliance Report in June, 1998 which has since been forwarded to Dental Council of India for its comments.

(c) No. Sir.

कन्या भ्रूणहत्या

3433. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि "सोनोग्राफी" तथा एमिनोसेन टेसिस जैसे परीक्षणों के बाद समूचे देश में कन्या भ्रूण हत्या भयावह रफ्तार से जारी है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है, इस संबंध में अभी तक कितने लोगों को दण्डित किया गया है तथा तत्संबंधी राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलित एजिलमलाई): (क) और (ख) यह विदित है कि भारतीय समाज में पुत्र की प्रबल चाह कन्या भ्रूणों के गर्भपात का कारण है। प्रसव पूर्व लिंग निर्धारण हेतु चिकित्सा प्रौद्योगिकी आसानी से सुलभ होने से यह कार्य सरल हो गया है। चूंकि ये कार्य गुप्त एवं मिली भगत से होते हैं इसलिए कोई प्रामाणिक या सही आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। कन्या भ्रूणहत्या के लिए दण्ड देने के किसी मामले की अभी तक सूचना नहीं मिली है। महाराष्ट्र में प्रसव पूर्व नैदानिक तकनीक (विनियमन एवं दुरुपयोग निवारण) अधिनियम, 1994 के उल्लंघन के लिए एक प्राईवेट नर्सिंगहोम के खिलाफ पुलिस ने कार्रवाई की है।